

UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents:

*Update on activities since the last meeting of the
Inter-Agency Coordination Group*

PRESENTED BY: MS. FRANZISKA HIRSCH

SECRETARY TO THE CONVENTION

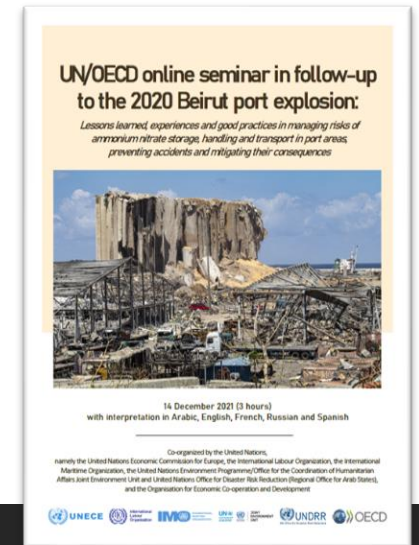
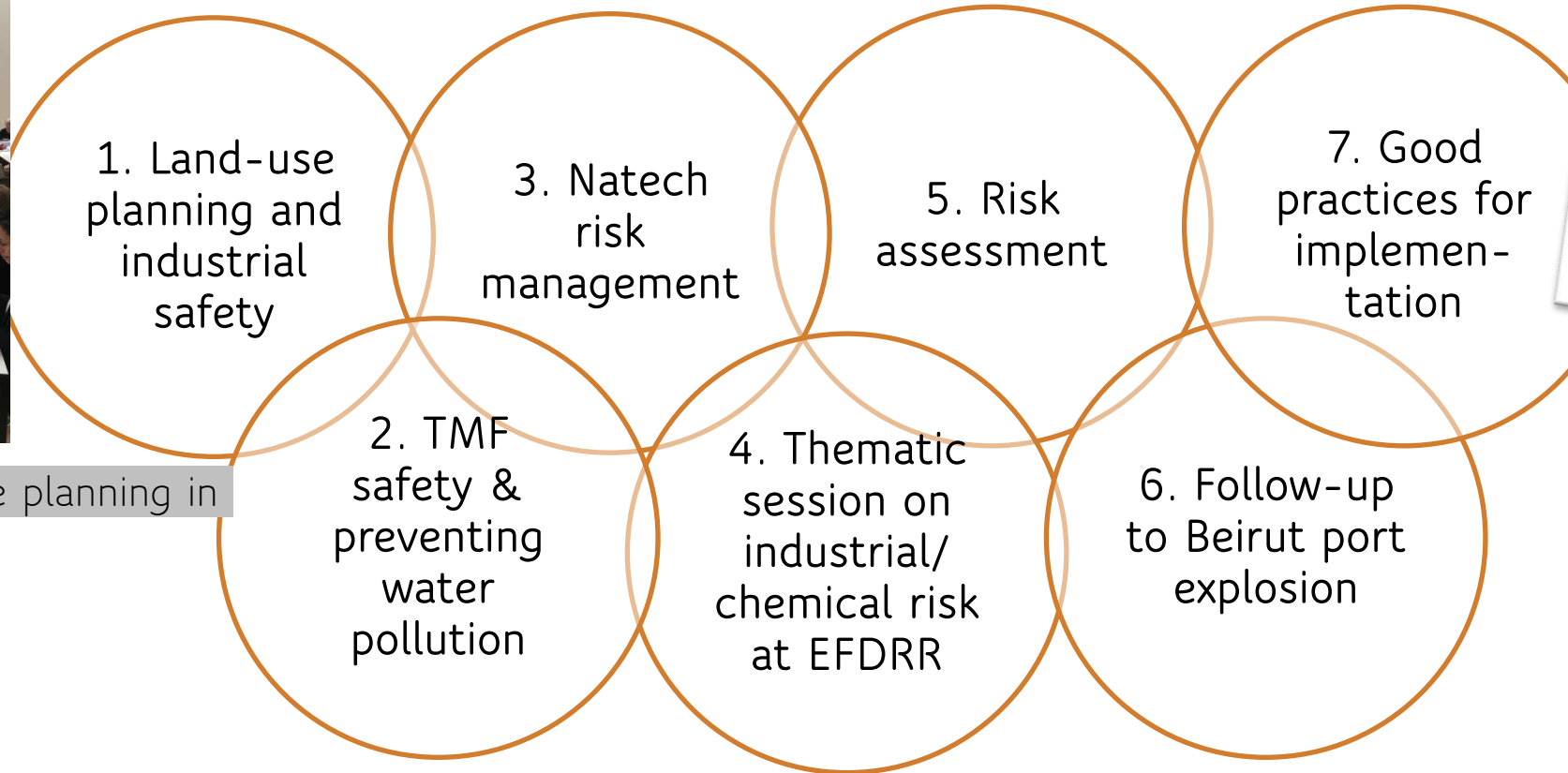
**7TH MEETING OF THE INTER-AGENCY
COORDINATION GROUP, ONLINE**

17 NOVEMBER 2021

I. Exchanging experience and good practices



Seminar on land-use planning in Mechelen, 2018

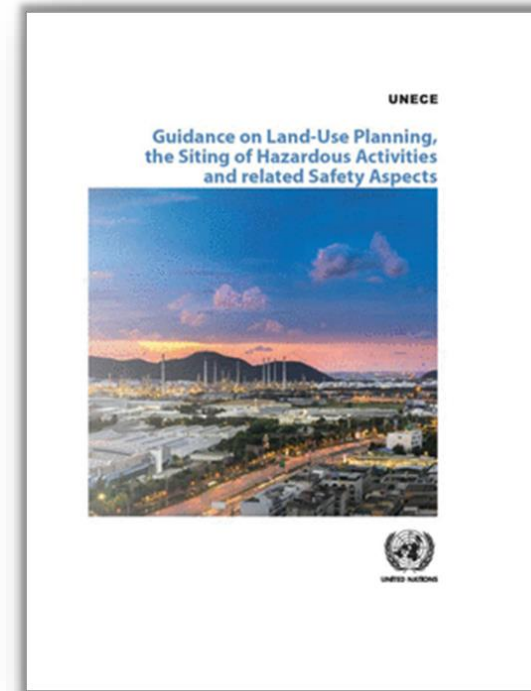


Land-use planning and industrial safety

funded by France & EIB



- Follow-up to development of [Guidance on Land-Use Planning, the Siting of Hazardous Activities and related Safety Aspects](#), developed in cooperation with Espoo Convention/Protocol on SEA, Aarhus Convention, Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management
- [Information repository](#) on LuP and safety, including good practices and lessons learned, addressing also EIA/SEA, DRR incl. Natech, public information/participation, launched in Dec. 2020
- Subregional workshop for South-Eastern Europe, Belgrade, 27-29 October 2021



Seminar on land-use planning in Mechelen, 2018

UNECE Online seminar, Decision and Online Toolkit on strengthening mine tailings safety



Online seminar
1 December 2020
9.30-12.30 CET

Register here: <https://indico.un.org/event/35252/>

**Mine tailings safety
in the UNECE region
and beyond:
Online seminar**

Held on 1 December 2020,
[supported by Germany](#)

43 countries, 115 participants, 37 organizations

Preparedness and response are important, but prevention is key

Mine tailings safety is a regional issue, not just a national matter

Decision on strengthening mine tailings safety

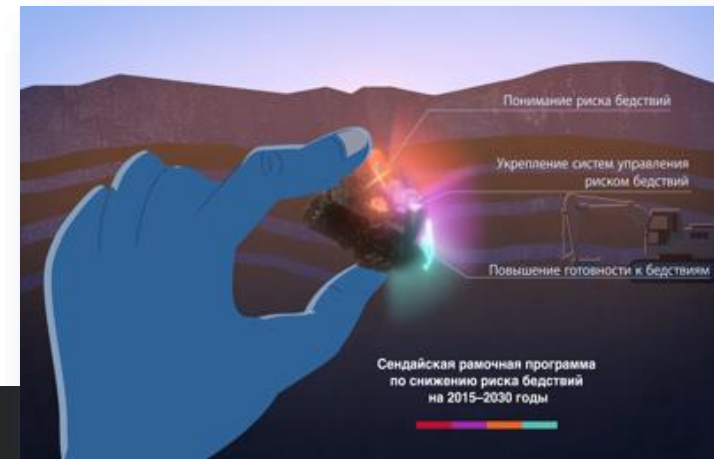
– adopted at CoP-11 (Dec 2020) actions agreed by Parties and recommended to other countries:

- Use *Safety guidelines and good practices for TMFs and methodology to achieve harmonized application*
- *Improve inter-institutional and stakeholder coordination – nationally & across borders*
- *Review legislation and policies on mine tailings against int. GP, e.g. the SG – work towards setting a standard of GP*
- **Increase efforts to strengthen tailings safety and prevent failures, in view of [more extreme weather events due to climate change](#)**
- *Preparation of [orientation paper for further action](#), taking account of activities of other los and in relation to UNEA 5.2*

Online Toolkit and Training for Strengthening Mine Tailings Safety

- Practical training → 3-step approach
- Available at <https://unece.org/environment-policy/industrial-accidents/online-toolkit-and-training-strengthening-mine-tailings>

Includes Training Video on Mine Tailings Safety (ENG, RUS)



Preventing accidental water pollution and related disaster risks, in cooperation among UNECE Water and Industrial Accidents Conventions

Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents

Prevention of accidental water pollution and its consequences through safety guidelines and good industry practices, seminars, capacity-development

UNECE Global Workshop on Building Climate-resilience through improving water management and sanitation at national and transboundary levels (Geneva and online, 29-31 March 2021):

- Integrated multi-hazard risk approach required to address multiple disaster risks
- Natech related risks and accidental water pollution
- Cooperation at the regional, transboundary and basin levels



Natech risk management

funded by France & EIB

- **NATECH-III Project** (ongoing) -> Development of a **guidance document on Natech risk management and brochure**, as part of NATECH Steering Group, under the leadership of OECD, with Germany
- **Seminar on Natech risk management at CoP-12 (Nov/Dec 2022)**, in close cooperation with OECD, EIB and the Steering Group
- **Guidance by the small group of Convention's Bureau on DRR/Natech**

[Webpage: UNECE - Natech](#)



Source/Image: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-50108413>



Baia Mare (Romania) in 2000

By Photo: Délmagyarország/Karnok Csaba - http://www.delmagyar.hu/szeged_hirek/azonnal_olt_a_cian_a_tiszaban/2415983/, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=42070845>



JOINT ENVIRONMENT UNIT



Joint Research Centre



In collaboration with partners, UNECE addresses Natech risk, with a particularly emphasis on transboundary aspects.

European Forum on Disaster Risk Reduction (EFDRR)

Focused thematic discussion: *Preventing another Sandoz, Baia Mare or Beirut accident: Perspectives on risk management in the context of the Sendai Framework*

- I. Inform the Sendai community on **specifics of chemical/industrial risk**, incl. how risks can be managed
- II. Present **good practice examples** on accident prevention and mitigation (policies in LuP, siting and risk assessment)
- III. Support and call for **increased policy coherence** between implementation of the Sendai Framework and adaptation to climate change, integrating man-made disaster risk management.
- IV. Place chemical/industrial risk in a **broader context** (related to COVID 19, energy transition and the EU Green Deal)



24 November (10:00-12:00)

Matosinhos, Portugal and online



Co-organized by the UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention, in cooperation with OECD, EIB, Norway and Slovenia



EUROPEAN FORUM FOR
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION



PORTUGAL
MATOSINHOS 2021

Report on risk assessment methodologies applied in the UNECE region – *to be presented at CoP-12 (end-2022)*

funded by Switzerland



Part 1 - RA for industrial accident prevention

Introduction to RA methodologies, benefits and available software tools

Part 2 - RA methodologies applied in the UNECE region

Case studies on selected industrial activities, incl. transboundary examples

Overview of RA methodologies used by UNECE countries

Collection of case studies (ongoing): focus on LNG/LPG storage tanks, refrigeration facilities using ammonia, oil terminals, ammonium nitrate (AN) and AN-based fertilizer storage, and chlorine facilities. Case studies where the effects of transboundary risks were analyzed are of particular interest.

Guidance by Bureau's/Working Group on Implementation's small group on RA

Legal and policy instruments regulating the storage, handling and transport of ammonium nitrate and its fertilizers



UNECE

- Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents
- UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations, UN Manual of Tests and Criteria
- Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)



IMO

- IMO Recommendations on the Safe Transport of Dangerous Cargoes and Related activities in Port Areas



ILO

- Chemicals Convention, 1990
- Chemicals Recommendation, 1990
- Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents Convention, 1993



OECD

- Guiding Principles for Chemical Accident Prevention, Preparedness and Response



UNDRR

- Sendai Framework for DRR
- WiA guidelines/Implementation Guide on man-made/technological hazards



UN/OECD online seminar in follow-up to the 2020 Beirut port explosion

funded by France & Germany

14 December
2021, online,
12:00-16:30

OBJECTIVES

- i. Identify and **share lessons learned** from the accidents involving AN and AN-based fertilizers for risk management of hazardous substances in port areas, focusing on AN and AN-based fertilizers.
- ii. Overview of **available instruments** to enhance safety
- iii. Exchange lessons learned, experiences and good practices on:
 - i. **effective risk management, including transboundary elements**
 - ii. **Needs** associated with prevention, preparedness and response
- iv. Foster **cooperation at the international and national levels**

AUDIENCE

- Policy/decision-makers (transport and port authorities, industrial accident prevention, preparedness and response, DRR)
- Industry representatives and employers' organizations
- Operators, workers and workers' organizations
- Inspectors (i.e. customs, labor and municipal)
- Civil society
- Academia and
- International organizations,



Seminar on good practices and lessons learned in implementation (Geneva and online, 3-4 Feb 2022)

Led and supported by Netherlands

- Special session by Working Group on Implementation
- Follow-up to 9th report on implementation & Decision on strengthening implementation of the Convention, adopted at CoP-11, with commitments by Parties to make further progress:
 - ❖ Identifying industrial hazardous activities and notifying each-other of those which could cause a transboundary effect,
 - ❖ Developing and implementing policies, strategies and measures for prevention and preparedness, and on land-use planning and siting;
 - ❖ Strengthening their risk assessment and prevention measures for industrial accidents triggered by natural disasters;
 - ❖ Cooperating with neighbouring and riparian countries in the development of harmonized or joint contingency-plans.

Session 1 – Identification and notification of hazardous activities

Session 2 – Prevention of industrial accidents

Session 3 – Decision-making on siting and land-use planning

Session 4 – Emergency preparedness, response and mutual assistance

Session 5 – Scientific and technical cooperation and exchange of information

Session 6 – Information to and participation of the public

II. Assistance and Cooperation Programme – Activities 2021-22



- ❖ Supporting countries (Azerbaijan - online, Montenegro, 30 Nov-1 Dec 21) in the implementation of Strategic Approach: national self-assessment & action plan
- ❖ Sub-regional workshops on land-use planning and industrial safety in South-Eastern Europe (27-29 Oct 21), with the support of France
- ❖ Launching National Policy Dialogues (NPDs) on Industrial Safety in Serbia (26 Oct 21) in cooperation with Serbian Ministry of Environmental Protection, with support of French Ministry of Ecological Transition
- ❖ Project on National Policy Dialogues for Industrial Safety in Central Asia (Phase I: Launch, 2020-2022) implemented thanks to financing by the Russian Federation
- ❖ Supporting countries of Central Asia in strengthening the safety of mine tailings, with financial support from the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment
- ❖ Further support to beneficiary countries, in response to requests for support desired (Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Ukraine), subject to availability of additional financing

National Policy Dialogue (NPD) for Industrial Safety in Serbia

funded by France



- [NPD Launch meeting](#) in Serbia in Belgrade, 26 October 2021
- Main [outcomes](#):
 - ✓ Launched the NPDs on Industrial Safety in Serbia and set up a Steering Committee with members of different authorities
 - ✓ Familiarized participants with existing instruments for the industrial accident prevention, preparedness and response, tools and methodologies (UNECE, OECD)
 - ✓ Shared information on existing institutional and legislative frameworks, on-going work and challenges
 - ✓ Decided to develop National Programme on Industrial Safety, considering linkages with related policy areas (DRR) and implementation of EU legislation
- [Partnership with OECD Working Party on Chemical Accidents](#)
- [NPD implementation](#) in Serbia as of 2022

National Policy Dialogue (NPDs) for Industrial Safety in Central Asia

funded by the Russian Federation



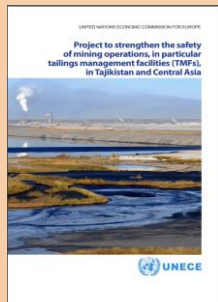
- Project on National Policy Dialogues for Industrial Safety in Central Asia (Phase I: Launch), August 2020 - December 2022
- Project beneficiaries are all five Central Asian countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan



- **Key project activities** include:
 - ✓ **Advisory services on reviewing national policies and legislation**, in view of alignment with the UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention and national legal requirements, and other related policy areas (including disaster risk reduction) *(2021: 5 national reports drafted with recommendations, and related meetings held)*
 - ✓ **Outreach missions and consultations** with governments of beneficiary countries with subsequent signature of agreement on the establishment of NPDs (2022)

TMF Project activities 2021

funded by Switzerland



2019-2021
(completed)

Project to strengthen the safety of mining operations, in particular tailings management facilities (TMFs), in **Tajikistan** and Central Asia

Activity (final): **On-site training in Tajikistan's Zarafshon region (3 components)**



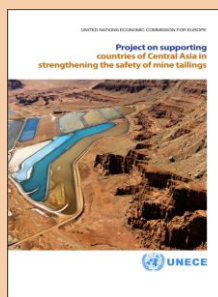
Preparatory meeting
(online)
23 April 2021

Visit to the operator site
(onsite)
2-4 June 2021

Evaluation / debrief
meeting (online and in-
person)
3 June 2021

TMF Projects activities 2021-2022

funded by Switzerland



2020-2021
(extended
to 2022)

Project on supporting countries of **Central Asia** in strengthening the safety of mine tailings

- Establishment of **interinstitutional working groups (IIWG)** on mine tailings safety and the prevention of accidental water pollution in KAZ+TAJ
- Preparation of an **inventory and map** of TMFs in Uzbekistan
- Update of self-assessments and action plans, which include specific needs and actions related to tailings safety and Natech risk management
- Development of an action plan to support implementation of the recommendations on the Convention, as contained in countries' EPRs
- **Subregional workshop** on tailings safety for Central Asian countries (planned for May 2022)

TMF Project activities 2021-2023

funded by Switzerland

- **Project to strengthen tailings safety in Uzbekistan and Central Asia** (starting soon)

Key activities:

- Establishment of an inter-institutional working group on tailings safety and the prevention of accidental water pollution in Uzbekistan
- Organization of an on-site training in Uzbekistan to support the application of the UNECE Safety Guidelines for TMFs, a related checklist methodology and Online Toolkit and Training on Mine Tailings Safety
- Sharing experience with other Central Asian countries at the river basin level on strengthening mine tailings safety, notably in the Syr Darya river basin



Other on-going tailings projects

Syr Darya Project (Phase I)

Implemented by UNECE (Water Convention/IWAC), with [funding from the EU](#) to the NPDs on Integrated Water Resources Management

Timeline: 2021-2022 (Phase I)

Objective: Take stock of industrial pollution sources in the Syr Darya River Basin and of existing/national measures of riparian countries to prevent and respond to pollution in emergency situations

Tailings project in Kyrgyzstan

[Implemented and funded by the German Environment Agency](#)


Aug 2021 – Project kick-off meeting in Istanbul/Turkey

Sep 2021 – On-site training in Kyrgyzstan

Oct 2021 – Contingency Planning Seminar in Kyrgyzstan

End-Nov 2021: final project workshop

Project end: Dec 2021



Thank you for your attention!

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
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OR VISIT THE WEBSITE [HTTP://WWW.UNECE.ORG/ENV/TEIA](http://www.unece.org/env/teia)